

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re application of
Kiyoshi HORII et al.
Serial No. 10/031,597

Filed May 23, 2002

: Confirmation No. 6481
: Docket No. 2002_0044A
: Group Art Unit 3751
: Examiner Lina R. Kontos

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR
STABILIZING SLIT FLUID JET

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AMENDMENT

MAY 22 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
IN THE ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 17, 2003, the period for response to which having been extended by two months to May 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the original abstract with the enclosed substitute abstract.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the original specification with the enclosed substitute specification.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-5 as follows.

1. (Amended) A method of stabilizing a slit fluid jet, said method comprising superimposing a fluid jet accompanied with a flip-flop phenomenon upon at least one surface of the slit fluid jet and thereby forming a stable slit fluid jet.